

Minister opens Hashim Al-Saqer medical center



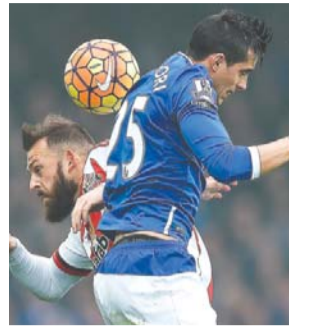
British cultural week to boost ties: Official



Khamenei: Fresh elections in Syria essential



Kone cuts Sunderland down to size



COURT ACQUITS EX-MP MULLA OF INSULTING AMIR, EGYPT

BULLETINS REJECT ELECTRONIC CRIMES LAW



Min 19°
Max 27°
High Tide 02:25 & 16:53
Low Tide 10:05 & 22:05



Ali Al-Moussa

COUNCILOR WANTS KUWAIT TO BE MORE EXPAT-FRIENDLY

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Municipal Council member and rapporteur of the Capital committee Ali Al-Moussa approves the idea of allowing Arab and foreign expatriates to own apartments in Kuwait, especially since many of them have been living here for several years and are entitled to this right that is already granted by other countries. In an exclusive interview with Kuwait Times, Moussa also said beach barbecues were a form of recreation and that banning them was not the answer.

Moussa said that the council is considering involving embassies to exchange expertise in many fields with Kuwait. He stressed that the municipal council needs to discuss some of the regulations and bylaws used in friendly countries and adopt some of them. Moussa also expressed approval of a proposal to commemorate some foreign nationals and name streets after them in appreciation of their services to Kuwait.

On waste management, Moussa told Kuwait Times that council members had visited several Arab and foreign recycling factories pending establishing one in Kuwait. He criticized the contracts signed with cleaning and garbage collection companies, noting that the municipality missed out including some conditions pertaining using modern cleaning machinery, which eventually increased the contracts' costs. Moussa added that the municipality must include marine units to collect waste dumped in national waters. (See Page 3)



ANKARA: Supporters of Turkey's Justice and Development Party (AKP) celebrate outside the party's headquarters in Ankara after the first results in the country's general election yesterday. — AFP

ERDOGAN'S AKP REGAINS MAJORITY IN TURKEY VOTE

ANKARA: Turkey's Justice and Development Party (AKP) founded by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan won back its parliamentary majority in yesterday's election, according to results with almost all ballots counted. The conservative Islamic-rooted party gained 49.4 percent of the vote, giving it 315 seats in the 550-member parliament, CNN-Turk said with after 97 percent of votes were in. Prime Minister and AKP leader Ahmet Davutoglu tweeted simply: "Elhamdulillah" (Thanks be to god).

Security forces fired tear gas at stone-throwing protesters in the mainly Kurdish southeastern city of Diyarbakir as results filtered in, with support for the pro-Kurdish opposition falling perilously near the 10 percent threshold to enter parliament.

In June, the AKP lost the overall majority it had enjoyed since 2002. Erdogan had presented Sunday's polls as a chance to restore stability at a time of tension over Kurdish insurrection and after two bombings, attributed to Islamic State, while critics fear a drift to authoritarianism under the president.

"This is a success exceeding our expectations," one of the officials said, acknowledging the scale of the victory was a surprise. Since June's poll, a ceasefire with Kurdish militants has collapsed, the war in neighbouring Syria has worsened and Turkey - a NATO member state - has been buffeted by two Islamic State-linked suicide bomb attacks that killed more than 130 people.

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By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The criminal court yesterday acquitted former liberal MP Saleh Al-Mulla of charges of insulting HH the Amir and damaging Kuwait-Egyptian relations through a number of tweets.

Mulla was detained for several days and charged with insulting HH the Amir and undermining diplomatic ties between Kuwait and Egypt earlier this year ahead of an official visit of Egyptian President AbdelFattah Al-Sisi.

Mulla wrote several comments on his Twitter account rejecting any new Kuwaiti aid to Egypt saying that all Kuwaitis rejected the same. The former lawmaker was arrested and detained for five days before he was released on a KD 2,000 bail pending trial. The ruling is not final as it can still be challenged by the prosecution before the appeals court.

In another development, 10 web-based newsletters yesterday rejected the proposed electronic crimes draft law and called for amending the draft law before sending it to the National Assembly for approval.

In a joint statement, 10 web-based bulletins called on the ministry to amend its proposed law to make it applicable only to electronic news sites without restricting the freedom of establishing personal, commercial or services websites which cannot be classified as news sites.

The statement added that the regulation of the electronic news sites through legislation based on professional and constitutional principles will help develop this key sector, adding that they intend to submit a draft law to the information ministry.

The information ministry has announced that it will submit the draft law to the National Assembly for approval in the current term which opened last week.

MP Faisal Al-Shaye who was elected head of the Assembly's financial and economic affairs committee, said yesterday that the committee will announce the date of a key meeting with the government to discuss its plans for dealing with the budget deficit.

The lawmaker said the meeting will include the financial committee, the Assembly's budgets committee and the finance ministry. The meeting aims at studying measures the government plans to adopt to deal with the budget deficit.

Shaye meanwhile sent a series of questions to the Minister of Sports and Youth Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah about reports that some sports clubs refused to allow members to register. He asked about the measures that the ministry had taken against such sports clubs and whether the ministry will reserve the rights of people to register later.

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KUWAIT: The expat who was run over following a group fight outside a mall in Hawally on Saturday night.

EGYPTIAN RUN OVER AFTER BIG HAWALLY MALL FIGHT

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: An Egyptian expat was killed and another was seriously injured after they were run over by a vehicle following a major brawl that broke out between two groups of Egyptians and Kuwaitis outside a mall in Hawally on Saturday night.

According to Interior Ministry's relations and security information department, the fight initially broke out inside the mall between Egyptian expats and two Kuwaiti citizens.

Although the fight started off as a minor quarrel, it soon escalated into a free-for-all battle with the expats eventually chasing the two citizens out of the mall. One of the citizens took his

vehicle and reportedly ran over the Egyptians killing one of them on the spot and leaving another with a broken pelvis. Security men arrested 14 persons who were involved in the fight including the driver who ran over the expats. Investigations are underway while the driver was charged with homicide.

Recently, the Kuwaiti authorities had announced that they would deport 17 Egyptians and six Syrians without trial after they were involved in a mass brawl over a commercial dispute in Shuwaikh. Kuwait deports thousands of foreigners every year for a variety of offences, from brawling to traffic violations to failing to renew residency permits.

RUSSIAN PLANE BROKE UP IN THE AIR UAE CARRIERS RE-ROUTE FLIGHTS TO AVOID SINAI

WADI AL-ZOLOMAT, Egypt: A Russian airliner that crashed in Egypt broke up "in the air" strewing fragments across a wide area, an expert said yesterday as investigators probed the disaster that killed 224 people. President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi urged patience to determine the cause of Saturday's crash, after the Islamic State jihadist group (IS) claimed it brought down the A-321 in Egypt's restive Sinai Peninsula.

"The disintegration happened in the air and the fragments are strewn over a large area," said Viktor Sorochenko, a senior official with Russia's Interstate Aviation Committee, quoted by the Russian news agency RIA-Novosti from Cairo. Sorochenko, who is heading an international panel of experts, said it was "too early to draw conclusions" about what caused the flight from Sharm el-Sheikh to Saint Petersburg to crash.

Investigators have recovered the "black box" flight recorder and the Egyptian government said its contents were being analysed. "In such cases, leave it to specialists to determine the cause of the plane

crash because it is a subject of an extensive and complicated technical study," Sisi said. The crash site in the Wadi al-Zolomat area of North Sinai was littered with blackened aircraft parts as the smell of burnt metal lingered, an AFP correspondent said.

There were no bodies visible, but soldiers guarded dozen of bags and suitcases belonging to passengers from flight KGL 9268. A tiny red jacket underlined the horror of the tragedy that also killed 17 children.

Officers involved in the search efforts said rescue crews had recovered 168 bodies so far, including one of a girl found eight kilometres (five miles) from the main wreckage. Army helicopters hovered above the site as the search for bodies continued.

Flags flew at half-mast in Russia yesterday and entertainment programs on television were cancelled on a national day of mourning for the victims, most of them Russians ranging in age from 10 months to 77 years.

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KUWAITI PILGRIM MISSING IN SAUDI CONFIRMED DEAD

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti pilgrim, Jassim Al-Failakawi, who had been missing following the tragic stampede that took place during the Hajj in Makkah this year, was confirmed dead, Saudi authorities informed the family.



Jassim Al-Failakawi

The authorities in Kuwait, including officials from foreign, interior, Awqaf and health ministries, had been trying hard to locate Al-Failakawi ever since the tragedy struck the pilgrimage. According to his companions, Al-Failakawi, left them on Mount Arafat at 1 am on Thursday, September 24 to rent a vehicle to carry them to Muzdalifa. However, he never came back.

QATAR OPENS MEGA-CAMP FOR 70,000 WORKERS

DOHA: Qatar officially opened the country's biggest workers' accommodation camp yesterday, with enough space to house almost 70,000 laborers. "Labor City" which also contains two police stations, Qatar's second largest mosque and cost some \$825 million to build (750 million euros), will house 68,640 workers when it reaches full capacity.

It was unveiled by Prime Minister Abdullah bin Nasser Al-Thani and the Labor Minister Abdullah al-Khulaifi in a ceremony in the capital Doha. The site is currently around 60 percent full and houses workers from various countries including Nepal, India, Sri Lanka and

Vietnam. Mohammed Al-Maraghi, a manager with the Naas Group, which is overseeing the site, said "Labor City" was the "model" for other camps and bigger sites may follow.

Khulaifi has said Qatar plans to build seven "cities" to house almost 260,000 laborers, brought to work on major infrastructure projects, notably for football's 2022 World Cup which the country is hosting. The decision to build more modern facilities comes after constant criticism of the squalid and crowded accommodation provided by Qatar for the vast numbers of migrant workers in the country.

Each room at Labor City should accommo-

date no more than four workers and daily inspections will be carried out to ensure that number is not breached, officials said yesterday. The unveiling came the day before a major labor reform-the Wage Protection System-comes into force.

This should guarantee laborers get paid on time with salaries electronically transferred to their bank accounts. Last week, Qatar was criticized after announcing "inadequate" changes to its "kafala" labor system for foreign workers, which places restrictions on when workers can leave the country and switch job contracts. — AFP